

[REDACTED]
Fitzgerald PA 31750

August 3, 1992

C-SPAN (The Cable Satellite public Affairs Network!)
400 North Capitol St NW
Suite # 135

Washington D.C. 20001-1511

Attn: Mr. Brian Lockman
Director of Network Operations

Dear Sirs:

I have followed the C-Span I broadcasts for several years; and particularly admire your Director's skill at interviewing, his sound diction, and clear enunciation.

Having grown up in a "political" family: i.e., politics was regular dinner table talk, now at age 80+ it is wonderful for me to mentally involve myself with what you are doing in the public affairs information arena.

I have two things to mention.

1. The very awkward construction of your announcement of the C-Span funding. Could it be reconstructed to more clearly (directly) state: "C-Span is privately funded by the cable satellite industry to serve the public"? This pushes the point that no public treasury funds is involved (as in Nat'l Public Broadcasting & Public Radio), that there is no axe to grind except to fill a need to have an informed citizenry!

Thank you for a good job.

2. Some months ago I heard on your network a brief mention of your educational material which is available to schools. For the first time I learned that printed materials were available to teachers to show professional teachers ways to integrate the "viewing" into the curriculum.

I have inquired in my community -- I have no grandchildren here, and so no personal involvement --, and so far as I am able to evaluate the use of TV in our local schools, it is simply making sets available in schoolrooms, and watching

(3)

at a fixed time. (This is what is known as Celler I programming.) There is no follow up, no feed-back into the curriculum to get the student to write down in coherent language (for English) (for History) for whatever, any thoughts stimulated by the broadcasts.

We may not have a very imaginative man at the head of the school system; but I personally know the chairman of the school board, and believe if I had more information in hand, I could go to him to get some better results.

Three years ago I became a tutor to a 30-year-old black woman, ^{a high school graduate,} unmarried, who has four children on public assistance, and who was unable to assist her own children as she herself could not read. I tutored her for two years; and for the first time became aware that a culturally deprived home breeds generation after generation of illiterates.